MEDIA ADVISORY

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First national ELECTRIC POLICE BIKE training Monday

Bike-mounted police officers from four Salt Lake valley departments will receive training Monday in the first electric-assisted bike school in the country. Two experienced officers from Santa Rosa, Calif., will train 25 local officers to use and maintain the special features of an electric-equipped mountain bike.

Two training sessions are planned for Monday, one from 8 a.m. to noon, and one from 1 to 5 p.m. The media is invited to come by at any time. Between noon and 1 p.m., however, electric-assisted bikes will be available to test ride and trainers can answer questions. Photos of officers on bikes can be taken from 8 to 10 a.m. and again from 1 to 3 p.m.

Thirteen new bikes have been purchased as part of a demonstration grant to test the use of electric-assisted bikes during the 2002 Winter Olympic. Salt Lake Clean Cities purchased the bikes with funds from PacifiCorp/Utah Power and The International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives/EPA. ZAP Power Systems of California and U.S. Pro Drive Inc., supplied the bikes. ZAP is providing the training. Participating are Salt Lake City, West Valley City, West Jordan and the University of Utah police departments.

For more information on the demonstration project, the bikes or the training, contact Beverly Miller, 535-7736. (at home this weekend 581-1598).